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An Everlasting

34.

Prognostication

O R,

The Countrey-Mans Guide.

*With the whole Yearly FAIRES of the
Kingdom of SCOTLAND.*

Wherein are set down diverse exact Obser-
vations concerning the Change of Wea-
ther daily throughout the Year, and
how to foreknow the State thereof.

T O G E T H E R

*With Directions for Husbandry and Gardening, both
true, plain and easie for every moneth in the year,
and excellent Physical Receipts for preservation
of the Body. As also, Other useful Ob-
servations not unfitting to be known.*

The first Edition;

Collected and compiled for the good and profit of all ho-
nest Countrey-men: by KINKI ABENEZRA
A wandering Jew.

A B E R D E E N,

Printed by IOHN FORBBS Printer to the Town
and University, Anno Dom. 1686.

Courteous Reader, think it not strange, that I have here insert this Vindication of Truth, against that impertinent and ignorant Cocks-comb James Paterson at Edinburgh, who through his blind ignorance, rails against all the approven and able Mathematicians in both Kingdoms; contrare both to reason and the true and exact Rules of the Church of England, under whose hands we have received a sufficient testimony in print for all the Feasts for 500 Years to come and upward; against that ignorant fool James Paterson, which ere long shall be made manifest to Superiour Powers, and all other Persons within this Ancient Kingdom of Scotland: they having approven our Almanack set forth at Aberdeen for the preceeding year 1685, and the Feasts therein contained to be exactly right according to the Church of England; but James Patersons for the said Year 1685 to be altogether wrong. Therefore, Courteous Reader, you shall see by process of time, what the great ignorance of that poor Simpleton is, notwithstanding of his false railings in his present years Almanack for 1686, shewing all Almanack-makers to err a great many Weeks in the yearly Feasts for 15 Years to come, and none to be right forsooth but Himself (quasi vero Don-Quixot) who is the greatest fool in nature: for though we do aver at Aberdeen upon most just grounds that there are ten dayes difference in reckning of the moneths, betwixt the Forraign or Gregorian Account and our Julian or English Account, yet the Yearlie moveable Feasts doth not alwayes hold so, according to that reckning, as we can exactly prove by Andrew Argols Ephemerides, set forth at Rome, which we also have at Aberdeen. Thus much in love as present to my loving Countrie, (Vale.)

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1. Predictions of Hot-weather.

IF a Mist or Hoar-frost do fall either in the Spring time or Autumn, it is a token that day shall be hot. If Night-Bats come in great numbers, and more timely in the Evening then they were wont, it is a sign of great heat to follow. If Humble-Bees or Drons fly abroad in an Evening, it is a sign of great heat. The rising of any white smoak, steam or rike upon the Waters, Meadows, or Marshes, before the rising or setting of the Sun, or in the Night-time, it is an evident sign of very hot-weather.

2. Predictions of cold and frosty-weather.

IF it begin to freez with an Easterly-wind, it is a token that the cold-weather shall last a long time. If the Moon be blackish, dark and thick, it signifies Winter and very cold weather. If the Moon rise or appear with two or three clear circles about it, it is a sign that the Aire shall be very cold. If in the beginning of a Frost, it snow but softly, and the snow be drizeling small, it is a sign of cold weather. If Sheep or Oxen about Harvett-time be seen to scrape and dig up the ground, and that they stand with their heads close together, it is a sign that Winter is at hand. If in Winter-time Clouds appear whitish about the Horizon, it is a sign of extreame cold weather. If the

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the Stars in Winter-time appear more bright and clear then ordinarily they are wont, it is a manifest token of evil weather. If Stars do send forth any little sparkles, it is a sign of extreame cold weather. If Sea-birds or Fowls forsake the Sea, it is a sign that a cold Winter is at hand,

3. Predictions of Snow.

I*F in Winter the Cloudes be whitish it is a sign of Snow at hand. If when it raines the Air be troubled and overcast, and that the Cloudes be more whitish then they are wont, it is a manifest token of Snow: and so much the more if the Air be warm and soulery. If for two or three dayes together in Winter the Cloudes be very whitish towards the evening, it is a sign of much snow.*

4. Predictions of Storms and Tempests.

I*F the Moon rise and appear with blewish, blackish or darkish Circles about it, it is a token of tempest: and so much the greater, by how much the more these Circles are broken, greenish or more dark. If it thunder towards the evening, it is an evident token of some tempest at hand. If the wind blow hard in the South, and presently change to the North, it is a token of a very great tempest, namely upon the Seas.*

5. Predictions of Thunder.

IF in Summer-time the Cloudes be pale and whitish, it is a sign of Storms and Tempests, together with Thunder-claps, and Bolts to fall shortly after. If the Thunder be in the evening, it is a token of sudden change of weather, and great Tempests to follow, with fall of Thunder bolts, and great flashing of lightning. If the Rainbow appear in the West, it is a token of Thunder. If great store of Stars be seen to fall and run in the Air, it is a token of Thundering and lightning to follow very shortly.



Predictions of Earthquakes.

IF Conduit or Pipe Waters be heard to make any extraordinary noise or to stir violently, it is a token of Earthquakes. If any Earthquake be at hand, the Sea will give manifest tokens thereof unto the skilfull Mariner, for though no wind be stirring, the Sea will swell and mount with Billowes and great Waves as in a Tempest and Storm: Moreover, whatsoever a Ship is freighted and ballasted with, all shall be seen to shake and stir as if it were in any other Building or Land. Small, long and whitish Cloudes like unto long lines towards the West, are commonly manifest tokens of ensuing Earthquakes. If the Sun and Moon appear dark, red, bloody, or fiery, it is a token of some succeeding Earthquake. If any Earthquake be at hand or likely to follow, all Birds and four footed Beasts are commonly wonted

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to leave and forsake their accustomed and ordinary homes, nests, caves, dens, or habitations, and to seek for new dwellings or places to harbour; seeking thereby to avoid the injury of foul weather.

7. Predictions of Corruption, Blasting, Rot, or Infection.

IF the Summer be moist, wet and cloudy, it is a sign that all Fruits, Corn and all kind of pulse shall be blasted and corrupted. If the Spring-time be very Cloudy, and full of Mists and hoary Frosts, namely when Trees do bud and blossome, and that the Fields wax green, it is a manifest token that all Fruits of the Earth shall be blasted, rotten or destroyed,

8. Predictions of Plenty and Abundance.

AND if there do great store of Snow fall on the plain, it is a token that the Frost shall not continue long, and that great plenty of Fruit and Corn will follow. Great store of Rain and Water in Winter betokeneth a good and plentiful Year after.

9. Predictions of Dearth and want of Corn.

IF in the Spring-time or Summer there fall great store of Waters, or that the Sky be overcast for some dayes together with Clouds, Hoar-frosts, and Mists, or that the Wind keep any while in the South, it is a manifest token of a great dearth, and the rather if these things happen

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pen at what time the Trees begin to bud and blossome, or when the Corn-fields be green. The truest, and most likely and manifest token of an ensuing dearth and barrenness, is the cruel and bloody Warrs, caused by the Ambition of unsatiat and greedy Tyrants, by their instruments the licentious, merciless, and covetous Souldiers who neither regarding succeeding want, nor any Christianlike motion, kill and lavishly wast all sorts of Cattell, spoyl and fondly consume what Corn soever they can lay hands upon, never regarding to keep any Seed for a new Year, subverting Houses, burning Towns, oppressing or imprisoning all sorts of persons, of what sex soever, to the great hearts grief and undoing of all men.

10. Predictions of Rain.

Small store of water in Winter doth signifie a moist and wet Spring to follow. The appearing of the Rainbow in any clear and fair weather, is a token of Rain presently to follow. The greener the Rainbow is, the greater store of Rain it doth signify. If in the Evening it lighten onely in the North, it is a token of ensuing Rain. Lightning in Summers-evening is a token of Rain to follow within three dayes after. If Oxen feed apace when it raines, it is a token that the Rain shall continue many dayes after. The Sky or Element being red or fiery in a Morning; foreshoweth Rain to follow. If Crows

or

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or Ravens flee together in great number, and that they croak and flutter their Wings, it will Rain shortly after. If Cats do lick their fore feet, and with them wash their head, it is a sign of Rain. Dusky and black Clouds in the Air signifieth Rain. The extraordinary crowing of Peacocks, is a manifest token of Rain. If the Hearne-shaw cry extraordinarily, it is a certain token of Rain. If it thunder in the South, it will rain shortly. Any gale of wind coming from the West, signifieth moistness & water.

II. Predictions of Storms and Wind.

THe Rainbow appearing very red, it is a sign of ensuing winds. If in an evening it lighten towards the North, it foretelleth great winds to ensue that way. If in a clear night it lighten from the South and South-West, it shewes that there will winds come thence. If any fiery sparks take hold of Pots, Pipkins, or Panns, when they are taken from the fire, it is a sign of stormie winds. If the Moon appear small and red, and if that part which is not lightened with the help of the Sun, be fiery or sparkling, it is a token of winds to follow. If the Sea be more greenish or blewish then it is wont, it is a token of Southerly-Winds, if it be dark it is a sign of Northerly-Winds. If the Clouds appear small, thick and dry, resembling flocks of sheep, it is a sign of winds. If there be any Circles red, or of diverse colours about the Sun
When

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when it riseth, it is a sign of wind. If it Thunder in the morning, it is a sign of wind. Those winds that begin by day time, are of more continuance then those that rise in the night.

12. Predictions of fair Weather.

THe rising of the Rain-bow very high in any rainy weather, fortels clear and fair weather. If the Rain-bow appear in the Winter without any wind, and some rain withall, it is a token of fair weather. If the Moon appear in the West with clear hornes, with no vapours about it, three dayes before the Opposition, and three dayes after the Conjunction, it is a sign of much fair weather. If the Sun rise and set clear without any vapours, it is a token of fair weather. Any wind coming from the North, and stirring many Clouds, signifieth very fair weather. The Sky being red in an evening foretels the next morning to be fair. The jaying of Dawes in the morning declare fair weather to come. If the Moon appear the third day before the Conjunction with small horns; it signifieth fair weather.

13. Predictions of foul Weather.

OXen eating more, and feeding more greedily then they are wont, and if they lye on their right side, it is a sign foul weather will follow. If Dogs do lye upon their right side, it is a sign foul weather will follow. When Rams do skip and leap more then ordinary, and when they

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they butt and shock one another, it is a sign of foul weather. If *Cocks* do crow by night more timely then they were wont, it is a token of change of weather, and very great storms. If the *Moon* rise or appear with two or three blew or black Circles about it, it is an evident token of stormy weather. If Clouds appear whitish in *Summer*, it signifies very foul weather, and furious storms. If it thunder in an evening, it is a token of foul weather. If in the beginning of *Winter*, small Birds do flock together in the fields, it is a sign of much foul weather.

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Directions for Husbandry and Gardening for every Moneth in the Year, and what is convenient to be observed and done in each of them, with excellent Physicall rules for preservation of Man's Body.

Directions for I A N U A R Y,

In this moneth cut down timber, and it shall not chink nor rive; dung land, cut away superfluous branches from fruit trees, and make bare their roots; fallow land for wheat & rie, drench beasts that be weak or sick, as Kyn with verjuyce, horses with water and ground Malt, and a little bran sodden together, or some other drench according to the disease; dig Gardens, and if the frost be not too hard remove trees, geld and wean such calves and pigs as you purpose to keep. The best time to set, sow remove, prune or lop, is before the full Moon. But sow pease beans, dung land, & fell timber in the last quarter of the Moon. In this moneth and the next use no Physick but for great

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great necessity, wear warm Cloaths. and eat meats that be hot. take heed of cold or wet-feet, especially if you be troubled with rheume.

Directions for FEBRUARY.

Now set, cut or lay quick-sets, graft pear and warden trees, set and plant vines, Oziers, and rose-trees, sow beans & pease and oats in cold clay land, kernels and mustard seed, plash hedges, cast up ditches, and set hopes. Now every good housewife bestoweth her pains in setting and sowing all kynds of fallets for Summer.

Directions for MARCH.

In the new of the moon, [the wind South, or any part west and the weather fair] graft, plant and sow that you left undone the last moneth of all kind of good fruits, cover the roots of your trees which you uncovered before, with rank and fat Earth, and if they be overgrown with moss, lay store of Swines dung about them, and it will destroy it, sow beans, pease, oats, onyons, parsneps, cucumbers melons, and all kynd of pot-herbs : Artichoks and sage, geld lambs, plow barley land, & in cold clay land sow it. Let blood according to your youth, strength, and necessity, the Sign being fit, whatsoever disease cannot now by physick be cured, will hardly be helped.

Directions for APRIL.

Now sow Barely, hemp and flax, and all kind of Garden seeds left unsown : pole hops, and set Garden herbs about the end of the moneth : let Tanners now pill barks, and provide themselves thereof, and all good house-wives get them busie about their Dairies. Now by the directions of a good Physician bleed and purge ; and they that have aches or be troubled with the Gout or cold diseases, may go to the bath in this and the next moneth.

Directions for MAY.

Sow Barley in the begining of this moneth, else look for a late harvest, and little profit : set and sow all manner of tender herbs and seeds, as basil, sweet marjorie, summer favor, and such like : weed gardens and corn, set stills to work, take Lambs from ewes, gather May dew, stir land for Wheat and

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and Rye, leave lopping of trees, teach hopes to climbe, but cut off the superfluous branches. Rise betimes and walk in fragrant fields, and by running streams.

Directions for JUNE.

Weed the rest of your Corns and Gardens, shear your Sheep who have them, bring home your Fewel, set Gilliflowres and Rosemary, sow Lettice and Radish, three or four dayes after the full Moon, for now they will not run to seed: mow down your Medows and make Hay while the Sun shines, but not before the longest day be past: cut neither hedge nor tree during this and the two next moneths. Beware of great thirst, use light, thin, and cooll dyet.

Directions for JULY.

He is a bad husband that is not sweating amongst his hay-cockes. It is also now good to gather your flowrs and seeds at the full of the Moon, and such as you would keep dry all the year, lay them in the shade till they be almost dry. and then sun them a little for fear of corrupting. Apply still making of Hay, fallow land for Wheat, pull Hemp that is ripe, gather garden Beans, get Rue and Wormwood to strow on floores to drive away fleas and moths. Use moderate dyet, and beware of great thirst, for nothing bringeth the pestelence, or pestilent diseases sooner then extream thirst, and fervent heats and cold taken suddenly upon them: therefore take heed of sudden colds, forbear lettice, and let no blood but for necessity.

Directions for AUGUST.

Reap down your Rye and Wheat, and get it into the barns, stir your land for Wheat and Rye again, and in the end of this moneth down with your Oats; and such as desire to have lettice or other herbs for Winter, may now sow their seeds in the new of the Moon. Sleep after dinner now if you will, and use moderate dyet.

Directions for SEPTEMBER,

Now gather all your hops and fruits, get down all your Barley, Pease and Beans, and about the midst of this moneth sow Wheat and Rye in strong and cold or clay land; remove
and

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and set slips of all kind of flowers betwixt the two Ladie-
dayes, and remove Trees every new Moon till February:
set Rose-trees, Strawberries and Barberries, make Verjuice,
put Ewes to Ram, gather Hives that will yeeld honey, and
sow Parsneeps and Carrets for Winter, for there are smoak-
ing showres of rain which useth ofrentimes to fall in this and
the three next moneths, more than in all the year. Bath in hot
baths, for cold diseases; let blood and take Physick according to ne-

Directions for OCTOBER (cessity.

Sow Wheat and Rye, but chiefly in the beginning, for
fear of rainy weather, because the sooner the better, in the
new Moon set and remove young Trees, as Plums, Pears,
Wardens, Apples, and Bay-trees: set or sow Acorns, Nuts,
Filberds and Walnuts: and after the full Moon gather your
winter fruit, especially in the afternoons, the weather being
dry. Use meats that be strong and nowrishing, drink Beer or
Ale that is strong, get good warm cloathing, and go dry shod,
for the time of the year requires it.

Directions for NOVEMBER.

This is the best time to make Malt, to begin to kill Hogs,
for killing of Swine for bacon, is now in the best season:
in the beginning of the moneth sow Wheat and Rye in hot
grounds; cut down your Ashes for Plow-timber; this also
is the fittest time to sow hastie Pease, to trench Gardens with
dung, to set Crab-tree-stocks, and to make good Martin-
mass, or winter salt-Beeff. Use wholesome meats and drinks,
with good exercise to preserve your health.

Directions for DECEMBER.

In this and the next moneth cut down great timber in the
old of the Moon, uncover the roots of fruit trees, and co-
ver herbs with straw from frost and snow: fallow land for
Barley, set Beans and hastie Pease, look well to your
Cattle, take Birds and Fowls with nets and lime-twigs,
brush Hedges, let Horses blood, kill Swine. Let your
meats be hot and nowrishing, but not such as breed melanchollie,
the warmness of your bodie (next to cloathing) let it ever pro-
ceed from exercise that is moderate, rather then fire, for that
heat is best that is thus procured.

*A few Observations not unfit
to be known.*

WHen you shear sheep, if you would that their fleeces should grow again thick and fast, let the Moon be increasing, and by no means past the full, except it be for scabby and infected sheep, such as are everie day readie to loose their Wool: for it is best to clip them which are so, when the Moon decreaseth.

Geld Sheep and other Cattel, the Moon in *Aries*, *Sagittarius* or in *Capricorn*, being in her last quarter, benignely configurated, and free from the rayes of *Saturn* and *Mars*. And if when you wean your Calves or other young Cattel, you would not that they should prove giddie, be sure that the Moon be not within three dayes of the Change, either before or after: For the Prime is within three dayes and eighteen hours before or after the Change, as well as on the verie day the Moon Changeth.

Observe this likewise, That if you would have your nails grow fair and clear, then must you use to cut them whilst the Moon increaseth in *Taurus*, *Libra*, *Aries*, or *Leo*, and in some friendlie Aspect either with the *Sun* or *Venus*. But however let not the Moon be in *Gemini* or *Pisces*, nor anie of these two Signs ascending.

Note also that in the weaning of Infants, if you would that the child should not be fond of the Nurse, but quicklie forget the breast, let not the Moon be in *Taurus* or *Libra*, but rather in *Gemini*, *Sagittarius*, *Capricorn* or *Aquarius*, far from the Sun, near the Full, and not ill Aspected. For the children that be thus weaned will quicklie forget the breast, and be forward to fasten upon anie other food.

The way (some say) to cure Sheep of a rot, is to take the bellie of a Ram and seeth it in Wine and Warer together, which after mix with Water, and give the same generallie to all the Sheep to drink, and by so doing they shall be cured.

Other

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Other Observations to foreknow the State of the Year.

It is common among the countrey people to judge of the following Winter by the quarter wherein the Wind shall be on *Hallowmas* day. But that which is rather to be observed is the next day: for the second day of *November* to the *Arabian Astrologers* was (as we read in *Origanus*) a Critical day, from whence they could know something in general concerning the disposition of the air. For if *Jupiter*, *Venus*, and *Mercurie* were then Occidental, or Retrograde they judged much rain to be in that year. They also had an eye to *Saturn* and *Mars*, viz. Whether of them were the stronger; as also what societie they had with the other Planets, chieflie with *Mercurie*, that so they might judge the better of the following changes of the air. Which Rule if it were well observed, might be as beneficial to us as it was to them.

It is usual on the 10. of *November* for the *Germans* to feast themselves with *Geese*, and as *Olaus magnus* reporteth, the *Northern* people use by the breast-bone thereof to Prognosticate of the following Winter. For if the breast-bone of the Goose be fair and clear when the flesh is eaten off, the Winter is like to be cold and rigid, full of hoard frosts. But if it be thick and dark, then is the Winter like to be full of snow, rain and fleet, and yet warm enough. But that this should be a token of such a Prognostick, *Origanus* doubteth.

Again, some take a further knowledge of the State and qualitie of the Year after this manner. First, (say they) in the end of Harves cut open two or three *Oak* apples, looking whether there be in them either Flies, Worms, or Spiders. The Worms or Magots signifie dearth or scarcitie to follow. The Flies (say they) signifie some Battel to ensue that year. Or if in the said Apples be Spiders, or anie thing like them, they foreshew Plague or Pestilence. From which and the like Calamities, Good Lord deliver us.

They who think this (of these apples) to be but an idle and superstitious observation; consider not that the things
bred

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bred in them proceed from the constitution of the air ; which (whether wholesom or unwholesom) appeareth more subtilly in such things as these , then to the sense of man it either doth or can. And if the air be corrupted , putrification aboundeth , things growing are blasted , the humours altered , blood corrupted , and diseases equivalent produced , as also the mind of man inclined to such and such actions as agree thereunto.

Some also say , so many mists in *March* , so many hear-frost after *Easter* : and that at the Vespertine rising of *Arcturus* the Swallows come.

Origanus noteth , that the eight of *June* (being dies *Medardi*) is held to be a Critical day , by reason of the doubtful constitution of the air , which the Stars of the nature of *Venus* and *Mercury* then make : in somuch that if it be a rainie day it foretelleth a wet and rainy harvest or hay time : if fair the contrary : Which observation [saith he] although it doth not alwayes hold , yet doth it seldom altogether fail.

The same author also saith , that the second of *July* [when the first Star in the girdle of *Orion* riseth with the Sun in the 19 degree of *Cancer*] is likewise a Critical day , insomuch that if it rain on the first or second of *July* , it often times doth [more or less] for four weeks together.

The same author saith again , that if the 24 of *August* be fair and clear , then doth the Husbandmen hope for a good and prosperous Autumn to succeed that year.

The first of *September* is also said to be Critical : for first , [but the rule doth not alwayes hold] if it rain not on this day , the rest of Autumn is like to be dry. Secondly , If the Bucks and Does be hardlie brought to copulation , then shall be a backward Winter : and so on the contrary. *Ptolomy* [to whom *Stadius* assenteth] saith , That as the Swallows begin not at all to appear before the tenth of *March* , so after the twelfth of *September* , they be seen that year no more.

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